GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1808
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2001
PENSION FOR EX-SERVICEMEN/WAR-WIDOWS
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of beneficiaries availing pension under the category of Ex-servicemen and war-widows as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether any demand has been raised for increase in the pension amount being paid to them;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) the amount provided for rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen and war-widows during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government propose to enhance the funds allocation for rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen and war-widows; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) The total number of pensioners, including family pensioners/war widows, is presently estimated to be 19.5 lakhs. State-wise break-up of pensioners is not maintained. The pension is disbursed through more than 30,000 pension paying offices namely branches of Public Sector Banks, Treasuries, Defence Pension Disbursing Offices, Pay and Accounts Offices, scattered, all over the country.

(b) & (c): The various demands/suggestions regarding enhancement of pension of the Armed Forces pensioners were considered by the 5th Central Pay Commission. In pursuance of the recommendations of the Commission, necessary orders have been issued for revising the pension/family pension of the Armed Forces personnel w.e.f. 1.1.1996. The minimum pension has been revised from Rs. 375/- to Rs. 1,275/- per month.

(d) & (e): There is no specific budget allocation for the rehabilitation of Ex-Servicemen/War-widows.

(f) The question does not arise.